Carolina Country

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A Touch of Nostalgia
...id Concrete and Steel
See Pages 24-25

Viewpoint

Rewriting History: No Wonder It Rankles

(Reprinted from The Raleigh Times)

The smugly superior tones of those federal government "expert" witnesses currently castigating the University of North Carolina system for its sins on race shouldn't deceive anybody. In this matter, the feds don't have 20-20 hindsight either.

In that hindsight, the genuinely "right" thing to do would have been to close the state's black campuses long ago and then decide what to do with their facilities, meanwhile absorbing their students at the mainstream, mostly-white campuses as best we could.

North Carolina didn't have the wisdom or the guts to do that. But neither, let it be remembered, did the feds.

What they did was to keep nudging the state to "desegregate" without saying what that meant—and then keep sniping at whatever we did. Uncle Sam did not advise—let alone direct—North Carolina to eliminate all vestiges of a dual system in higher education, as he did with lower level schools.

—Punch

Neither did black groups press for that elimination at college level. They wanted to have their higher-education cake and eat it too. They still do. They sought intensive integration of formerly white campuses and simultaneous intensive improvement on formerly all—and still mostly—black campuses.

These goals are mutually exclusive. You can't set up a nonpareil system of mostly-black campuses alongside a nonpareil system of totally integrated "everybody" campuses. The "everybody" system must serve and challenge everybody, including the cream of the crop, white and black. But the black schools must have access to the cream of the black crop to be first-quality schools. Both at once? No way.

Yet most blacks could never see that only ending black schools as black schools would give North Carolina one "equal" higher-education system. Many white politicians used this black institutional loyalty to prevent and put off that equality.

And the federal government never stepped in and said "Look, you're getting yourselved into a terrible pickle here, and we're going to stop you from it even if it hurts."

We make no claims for perfection or for 100 percent purity of motive. Any time since 1955 or so, the state could have decided to end the black compuses "black" identity. It did not. Such successes as N.C. Central's library science program—which has attracted, and trained well, a number of whites—prove it could have worked.

But in the real world of political push and pull and slowly fading prejudice, North Carolina has tried to fulfill impossibly conflicting goals of white-campus "desegregation" and black-campus preservation with reasonable good faith.

That is more than the federal government ever did for higher education. Now they're rewriting history, telling us that we should have known enough to do what they didn't have the backbone to tell us to do then. No wonder it rankles.

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N.C. Site To Be Considered

Demonstration Peat Project Funded

North Carolina electric cooperatives could be awarded federal funds for preliminary work on a demonstration peat-fired generating plant under legislation adopted recently by Congress.

The legislation allocates $3.1 million for first-stage design and engineering on such a plant, which would be the first such facility in the U.S.

The measure, which does not specify where the plant would be built, was adopted by the U.S. Senate in late July after having cleared the U.S. House several months earlier.

The selection will be made "strictly on a competitive basis," said North Carolina Sen. Robert Morgan, in introducing the funding bill in the Senate.

He cited the efforts of North Carolina Electric Membership to study the feasibility of this pioneer project, but said he wanted the site selected through a competitive process.

N.C. EMC, the power supply generating and transmission cooperative serving 27 of the state's 28 EMCs, has been examining the concept since the summer of 1977, when First Colony Farms in Northeastern North Carolina began testing means of harvesting peat from its lands.

The concept envisions a 150-megawatt plant in that region which would tap the area's vast peat reserves.

"It has long seemed to me," Sen. Morgan said, "that the United States should take a lesson from the Europeans on the direct burning of peat. Finland, Sweden and Ireland have been producing electricity from peat for years. So has the Soviet Union.

"Peat is found in abundance in my state, yet North Carolina holds only 2 percent of the nation's reserve. In fact, it has been estimated that the amount of peat in the U.S. holds the energy equivalent of up to 250 billion barrels of oil, or to put it in plainer language, the equivalent of Saudi Arabia's oil reserves."

"It has been estimated that the amount of peat in the U.S. holds the energy equivalent of up to 250 billion barrels of oil, or to put it in plainer language, the equivalent of Saudi Arabia's oil reserves."

—U.S. Sen. Robert Morgan

He added that the nation has ignored this important energy source for too long, "especially in light of our desperate need to cut back on our consumption of foreign oil."

The proposed demonstration plant, he pointed out, would provide vital information regarding the practical approaches to tapping this energy source and the environmental effects of harvesting and burning peat.

"In short, work has been done, and there are those in the country eager to move ahead with the direct burning of peat. It is time for the federal government to sieze the initiative and put incentives in place to spur the use of this abundant fuel."

Meanwhile, N.C. EMC, the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association and the Electric Power Research Institute are supporting a comprehensive study of peat as a source of electric power.

The study is being carried out under the auspices of EPRI, the electric industry's research and development arm which is headquartered in Palo Alto, Calif. The agency is coordinating a team effort in conducting the study, with a major portion of it under a contract with the engineering consultant firm of Burns and Roe.

The research will also involve various subcontractors, including the Electricity Supply Board of Ireland and EKONO, Inc., of Finland, who have expertise in the burning of peat; Dames and Moore, specialists in environmental analysis; and Combustion Engineering, a world leader in designing and building steam boilers.

Peat-Liquid Fuels Study Set

East Carolina University and Texasgulf, Inc. have launched a study of the ways to use peat in a mixture and liquid fuels in standard burners.

The study is aimed at developing a fuel made from peat and fuel oil methanol. It envisions using 30-50 percent peat and a liquid fuel.

Brooks Whitehurst, Texasgulf's manager of technical services, said such a mixture could be adapted to existing equipment without extensive modifications.

"We're hopeful that we can provide enough incentive that people will want to do this for economic reasons," he said.

The major beneficiaries of the ECU-Texasgulf research would be small-and medium-size industries that burn liquid fuels.

Whitehurst said it was conceivable that the technology could be adapted to agricultural operations such as grain drying and tobacco curing.

He said it probably would not be feasible for use in home furnaces without modification of furnace design.

No estimates are available on the savings of a peat-based fuel, but Whitehurst said they would be substantial.

The one-year project is funded by a $40,000 grant from the N.C. Energy Institute.

Much of the work will be carried out at Texasgulf's huge phosphate mining and fertilizer producing operations in Beaufort County.

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Duplin Youth Named To National Board

Randall Kenan, nephew of Mary Kenan Hall of Chinquapin, has been

selected as North Carolina's director on the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association's Youth Consulting Board. He was chosen for the board post from among the 28 Tar Heel participants in the 1980 Rural Electric Youth Tour to Washington in June. The East Duplin High School honor student, who represented Four County Electric Membership Corporation, Burgaw, on the tour, was selected on the basis of academic standing, extracurricular activities and honors.

The youth board advises the national co-op organization on youth programs and activities.

Water Heater Timers Save Families Money

Families of every size benefit from having a timer installed on the household water heater, according to a two-year study conducted by Haywood Electric Membership Corporation, Waynesville. However, larger families benefited more.

During the first year of the test period, the cooperative measured each test family's kilowatt hour use for water heating without any controls. The second year a timer was installed to limit the heating frequencies on the water heater.

Timers were set so the heaters would not operate during Haywood EMC peak hours (6-10 a.m. and 5-9 p.m.) unless hot water was specifically needed but not available. A switch was available on the timer to override the cutoff.

The tests showed that a two-person family averaged a savings in the timer program of $25.82 per household per year; one person family, $8.50; three person family, $41.91; and four person family, $33.99. One family of six at Clyde saved $75.82.

Following the test, only one of the 24 participants wanted the timer removed.

Cover Features Mildred The Bear

Yes, that's Grandfather Mountain's noted bear Mildred and one of her offspring, as photographed by Hugh Morton.

The photo first appeared on the cover of a 28-page booklet on the famous bear titled, *Mildred the Bear*, which was published last year. Our thanks to Mr. Morton for allowing our use of the color separations for our cover.

Eight EMCs Slate 1980 Annual Meetings

Eight of North Carolina's Electric Membership Corporations have scheduled their 1980 annual meetings during the next several weeks:

- **Crescent EMC,** Statesville, will hold its annual meeting Oct. 11 at the Mac Gray Auditorium of Statesville Senior High School. Entertainment by The Gospel Voices of Olin will begin at 1:30 p.m., with the business session to begin at 2 p.m. The meeting will feature a presentation titled "Energy: Today and Tomorrow."
- **Surry-Yadkin EMC,** Dobson, will hold its annual meeting on Oct. 11 at Surry Central High School. Entertainment by the Stokes County Ramblers and the Messengers Quartet is scheduled from 12 noon until 2 p.m., when the business meeting begins. The EMC will be observing its 40th anniversary at the meeting.
- **Brunswick EMC,** Shallotte, will meet Oct. 31 at Smith's Tobacco Warehouse in Whiteville. Registration is set to begin at 11 a.m., with the business meeting to open at 1 p.m.
- **Central EMC,** Sanford, will meet Oct. 10 at Lee County Senior High School in Sanford. Registration will begin at 6:45 p.m.. with the business meeting to start at 7:30 p.m.
- **Davidson EMC,** Lexington, will meet Oct. 25 at Central Davidson Senior High School near Lexington. Registration will begin at 4 p.m. with the business session to open at 4:30 p.m.
- **Lumbee River EMC,** Red Springs, will hold its annual meeting Oct. 7 at the Performing Arts Center at Pembroke State University in Pembroke. Registration will begin at 6 p.m., with the business session to open at 7 p.m. The guest speaker will be Dr. Frank A. Iddings, professor of nuclear science at Louisiana State University. Entertainment will be provided by the Gospel Singing Quartet of Fairmont.
- **Rutherford EMC,** Forest City, will hold its annual meeting Oct. 25 at Morganton's Collett Street Recreation Center. Registration will begin at 10 a.m., with the business session to open at 11 a.m.
- **Four County EMC,** Burgaw, will hold its annual meeting Oct. 27 at Union High School near Clinton. Registration will begin at 6:30 p.m., with the business session to open at 7:30 p.m.

Discounts Prove Ineffective For Promoting Conservation

A study by the management of Edgecombe-Martin County Electric Membership Corporation, Tarboro, has concluded that discounts on consumer bills would be an "ineffective" method of promoting home weatherization efforts.

The study, which was conducted in response to a resolution adopted at the EMC's 1980 annual meeting, focused on the concept of offering a percentage discount on the bills of

those consumer-members who weatherize their homes to meet prescribed energy efficiency standards.

"The study showed that this is a rarely used method of promoting energy conservation," said EMC Manager Rudolph Sexton. "It also revealed that such discounts might be discriminatory since this tends to reward the affluent consumer and penalize those who cannot afford the investment—as well as those who live in rented or leased homes."

After reviewing the results of the study, the EMC's Board of Directors endorsed the use of other means of offering incentives for members to adopt energy conservation measures. It also reaffirmed its support for conservation in general and the use of energy efficiency standards for home weatherization.

Engineer From India Visits Davidson EMC

Davidson Electric Membership Corporation, Lexington, played host recently to a distinguished foreign visitor who is touring the United States as part of a World Bank project.

The visitor was J. C. Gilhotra, executive engineer from Punjab, India, who is studying rural electric cooperatives across the country for techniques to be used in electrification projects in India and other developing countries.

Two New Directors Take EMC Board Seats

Two newcomers and 16 incumbents are now serving new terms on the Boards of Directors of three North Carolina Electric Membership Corporations, as a result of decisions made at recent EMC annual meetings:

- **Randolph EMC,** Asheboro—Re-elected were T. Harold Terry of Rt. 1, Siler City, president; Charles Teague of Rt. 1, Seagrove, vice president and T. L. York of Rt. 1, Staley.
- **Pee Dee EMC,** Wadesboro—Elected for his first term was Charles Smith of Laurel Hill, who took the seat previously held by A. W. Bunch of Rt. 1, Laurel Hill. Bunch was ineligible to seek re-election due to the EMC's restrictions governing the age of directors. Re-elected were Ted Hargett of Rt. 1, Marshville; H. M. Royals of Wadesboro and Joe Pryor of Marshville.
- **Union EMC,** Monroe—All members of the board were appointed to serve one-year terms when the meeting failed to achieve a quorum. In addition, one new director was appointed to serve in the post previously held by the late A. O. Flowe of Rt. 1, Midland. He is J. T. Hartsell of Rt. 4, Concord.

Other members of the board are Bruce Thompson of Charlotte, president; Boyd C. Haigler of Rt. 3, Monroe, vice president; J. Grant Duncan Jr. of Rt. 1, Indian Trail, secretary-treasurer; William R. Wilson of Rt. 1, Richfield; B. L. Starnes of Rt. 1, Waxhaw; J. Ray Efird of Rt. 4, Albemarle; Thurman Harwood of Rt. 1, New London; Ralph E. Johnson of Charlotte; Rufus N. Reid of Concord and Vann W. Hilton of Rt. 1, Marshville.

Home Folks

Agricultural Extension agent **Hoover M. Royals** of Anson County has been appointed county chairman after 24 years in extension. The Bertie County native served as an agent in Edgecombe and Johnston Counties before transferring to Anson County in 1965. He is a director of Pee Dee Electric Membership Corporation, Wadesboro. . . .**Thomas M. Byrd,** N.C. State University associate professor and agricultural information specialist, has been presented the Agricultural Communicators in Education Professional Award. The Faison native, a former newspaper reporter, has been at NCSU since 1958. . . .**Mike Epley,** Watauga County planner, has been appointed coordinator of the newly-formed Watauga County Energy Conservation and Development Area Project, which is designed as a national model by the U.S. Department of Energy. . . . **William G. Greenlee** of Marion has been re-elected to a three-year term as a director of five Columbus-based Nationwide Insurance Companies. He has served on the boards since 1971. He was also re-elected for a one-year term as board chairman of Nationwide General Insurance Company. He is vice president of Greenlee Lime and Stone, Inc. of Marion. . . .

Rockingham County Agricultural Extension agent **Judge Pierce** was one of 30 U.S. agricultural extension agents chosen to participate in the 1980 Dow Study Tour of California. Pierce and the other agents went to California to study the vast agricultural industry in the San Joaquin Valley. A 16-year veteran of extension work, Pierce currently works with horticultural enterprises and community resource development. . . . The Men's Bible Class of Barnes United Methodist Church in Murfreesboro has presented a posthumous award to the late **Edwin W. Evans,** who served as teacher of the class for half a century. The bronze plaque was presented to Betty Worrell Darden, Evans' niece. Evans was a director and president of Roanoke Electric Membership Corporation, Rich Square, until his death last September. . . .**James S. Melton,** a statewide leader in rural electric and horticultural circles and an Onslow County Democratic leader, died July 27. A former director of Jones-Onslow Electric Membership Corporation, Jacksonville, and the statewide EMC organization, he was chairman of the N.C. Rural Electrification Authority.

The Folk Art Center

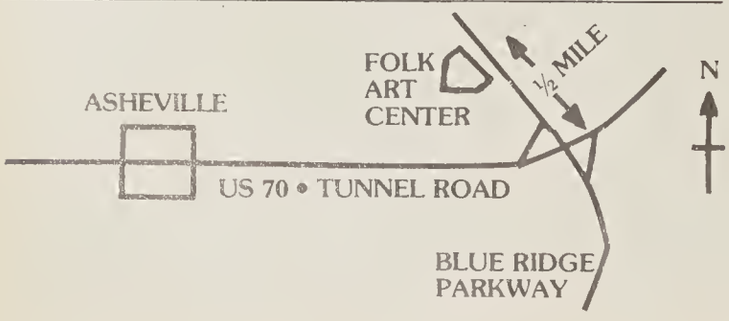
Providing a beautiful showplace for Southern Highland handicrafts, folk dancing and folk music.

The Folk Art Center on the Blue Ridge Parkway near Asheville, which opened earlier this year, "will benefit the entire region and our nation in so many ways."

Those are the words of Joan Mondale, wife of Vice President Walter Mondale, as she spoke at the dedication ceremonies for the unique $2.2 million facility.

The Southern Highland Handicraft Guild, serving the nine-state mountain region that stretches from Maryland to Alabama, operates the center in cooperation with the National Park Service. It is expected to attract about 300,000 visitors annually.

The center is designed as a major regional educational and activity center for the crafts and folklore of the Southern Highlands. The 30,500-square-foot building contains a museum and exhibit area, craft sales shop, indoor-outdoor auditorium, library, Blue Ridge Parkway information center and has parking facilities for 160 cars, plus school and tour buses.



Craftsmen regularly demonstrate their workmanship at the center, and folk dancing, folk music and film presentations are part of its regular schedule.

Construction and operational expenses for the center are covered through grants and gifts from individuals, foundations and corporations and by the sale of the crafts in the retail shop.

Major funding for the facility came from the Guild, the Appalachian Regional Commission, National Park Service, National Endowment for the Arts, the Ford Foundation, Buncombe County and the North Carolina Arts Council.

The opening of the center last April marked the 50th anniversary of the Guild, which has more than 600 individual and producing members in the Southern Highland region.

The center is situated at Milepost 382 on the Blue Ridge Parkway. Travellers approaching Asheville will find the center clearly marked on the Parkway at Oteen, just east of Asheville. Those travelling to Asheville on I-26, I-40, U.S. 70 or U.S. 74 should enter the Parkway near Asheville and follow signs to the center.

It is open every day except Christmas and New Year's from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission is free.

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Patty Shelley, Rural Electric Youth Tour coordinator, gets a hug from Bill Lynch as she presents him with an "Outstanding Service Award" for his contributions to the annual tour. Lynch, a Greyhound bus driver, has been an unofficial adviser on each of the tours since the program began 14 years ago. At left is Rebekah Rivers, coordinator of North Carolina's first tour, who is now with the the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association.

Youth Tour Alumni: Just Look At

They are doctors and nurses, attorneys, farmers, teachers, engineers and office workers. They work for restaurants and cooperatives, and they own businesses. Many of them go to school.

Who are they?

The 200 former Youth Tourists who responded to a survey conducted during preparations for North Carolina's first Rural Electric Youth Tour Reunion, which was held Aug. 2 in Raleigh.

The tour has been sponsored by North Carolina's Electric Membership Corporations each summer for the past 14 years. It involves exposing high school students to historic sites and the workings of government during a week-long visit to Washington.

About 115 of the tour's "alumni" and several EMC employees who had served as advisers for the trip participated in the reunion, which featured a dinner, program and dance.

The program included remarks by several former tourists, recalling the highlights of their trips; presentation of various prizes; a slide program reviewing the various trips and comments by Rebekah Rivers, coordinator of women's activities for the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association in Washington. A former member of the North Carolina statewide EMC organization, she served as adviser to the first Tar Heel Youth trip in 1967.

A highlight of the reunion came during the presentation of an "Outstanding Service Award" to Bill Lynch of Raleigh, the Greyhound bus driver who has been an unofficial adviser on each of the trips. He received a standing ovation as he stepped forward to accept the award.

The former tourists who responded to the survey represented more than half of the 390 young people who have been involved in the Youth Tour.

Four of the 200 are attorneys. One is a female staff attorney for the Legal Aid Society of Northwest N.C. and another is an associate attorney general with the State Department of Justice. The third is associated with a law firm in Spruce Pine and the fourth is a legal assistant in Durham.

Two are currently in medical school at UNC-Chapel Hill and 11 are working in the medical and health-related professions. A total of 16 are teachers, from kindergarten to college level, 30 are in business or office work, and several are engineers.

Seven are self-employed. Three own and operate farms, one is a carpenter and one is operating an import business from the Philippines. Another has a stove and fireplace shop in New Bern and one woman owns a very popular restaurant in the Historic Oakwood section of Raleigh.

Two work for cooperatives: one at Blue Ridge Production Credit Association and Federal Land Bank in Gaffney, S.C. and the other at Tri-County EMC in Goldsboro.

But the prize for the most unusual job reported must go to the man who is a maitre d' and captain at the Rue de Paris Restaurant in Atlanta.

Several of the former Youth Tourists have master's degrees and one is working on a Ph. D. at the University of Wisconsin. A total of 61 are still in school, either high school or college.

And many have attained high academic honors. Three have been named to Phi Beta Kappa, two to Phi Kappa Phi, and one was a Danforth Fellow semi-finalist. Another was a Dana Scholar at Davidson College, and one was nominated as a

Opening Up New Worlds For EMC Youth

"It was one of the best youth programs I've ever been involved in. I just hope there's room for my kids in the future."

That comment came from Carolyn Markel Moench of Boone, as she discussed her memories of the 1975 Rural Electric Youth Tour sponsored by North Carolina's Electric Membership Corporations.

Ms. Moench, who represented Blue Ridge EMC, Lenoir, on the week-long visit to Washington, D.C., is now a chemistry lab instructor at Appalachian State University—where she graduated magna cum laude earlier this year.

She recalls the trip as an experience she'll always treasure because it opened up new worlds for her.

"I got to meet some awfully nice people. You don't really remember the other things very well after awhile, but you remember the people."

Ms. Moench's sentiments were echoed repeatedly by the remarks of various other Youth Tour "alumni" who were asked to reflect on their respective trips.

"I think a lot even now about the things I saw and learned in Washington that year," said Jerry Cody of Gaffney, S.C. who represented French Broad EMC, Marshall, on the 1973 tour. "It really turned out to be a help later on."

Cody, who is now manager of the Gaffney office of Blue Ridge Production Credit Association and Federal Land Bank of Spartanburg, said one of his most vivid memories involves a chance meeting with President Nixon as the group took a boat ride up the Potomac.

"He and his party were on the *Sequoia*. As we passed, he stood and waved to our group. That meant a lot to me at the time," he said.

For Virgil Hill of Asheboro, who represented Randolph EMC, Asheboro, on the 1978 tour, the trip was an experience he wouldn't have wanted to miss.

"I definitely think the EMCs should keep doing this. For me, it was a very good trip."

Hill, who now operates a huge Randolph County chicken farm, said the members of his group became so close that many of them still maintain friendships—despite the passage of time and the distance separating them.

"We 're always running into one another," he said. "We keep in touch pretty well."

Bonnie Whitehead of Chapel Hill, a 1967 Youth Tourist from Halifax EMC, Enfield, said her week in Washington helped her get a better grip on where she was going with her life.

"I think it's a great thing just to get kids together at that age and that point in their lives," she said. "It gives the kids a chance to see where people their ages are going in their lives. It's well worth the time."

Ms. Whitehead, who is now a research assistant with Burroughs-Wellcome Co. at Research Triangle Park, said thinking about the trip brings back fond memories.

"I'd do it again now if someone offered me the week!"

Them Now!

Morehead Scholar at UNC-Chapel Hill. Four high school students have attended the Governor's School and three participated in the Smithsonian Scholars program of the N.C. Association of Electric Cooperatives.

In addition, one of the Smithsonian students recently received a full basketball scholarship to Applachian State University.

Not only are the Youth Tourists known for their intelligence, but some are also known for their beauty. Two young women have competed in the Miss North Carolina Pageant and one of the two also participated in the Miss U.S.A. Pageant.

Only 28 of the group are parents, and they have a total of 41 children.

One of the most interesting statistics of all is the fact that only 12 of the 200 have moved from North Carolina, and several of those are away only temporarily. And a majority of those still in North Carolina reside in the same general area as they did when they went on the Youth Tour.

—Patty Shelley

Carolyn Markel Moench of Boone, a member of the 1975 "class" of Rural Electric Youth Tour "alumni," recalls the highlights of that trip during the Youth Tour Reunion in Raleigh.

For Some EMC Consumers

High Power Costs Bring "Staggering Bills"

Officials of North Carolina Electric Membership Corporation have issued an alert for consumer-members of 18 of the state's electric cooperatives to gird themselves for some staggering electric bills in the next few months.

The high bills are the result of stiff increases in the cost of wholesale power which the EMCs buy from Carolina Power and Light Co.

The increases came in the form of new, higher rates which CP&L recently put into effect and extremely high fuel charges stemming from the power company's unusually heavy reliance on expensive oil and gas for generation in recent months.

"We knew the base rates would be going up in mid-August, but we were totally unprepared for the extra fuel charges that CP&L is passing along to the EMCs," said Jim Hubbard, executive vice president of N.C. EMC, the statewide power supply organization representing the state's electric co-ops.

"Putting the new rates and the higher fuel charges together, we expect the EMCs to pay CP&L, on the average, about 60 percent more for bulk power in September. The figure will vary from co-op to co-op.

"Most of that will have to be passed along to the EMC consumer-members."

About 250,000 homes and businesses are served by the 18 EMCs involved.

Aggravating the situation is the fact that these higher costs will hit the consumers when their kilowatt hour usage is unusually high due to the extremely hot summer weather.

"Adding these increased costs to these high usage levels will mean that many consumers will be getting some staggering bills in the next few months. It may be November or later before they'll see much relief," Hubbard pointed out.

Eighteen EMCs Affected

A total of 18 North Carolina Electric Membership Corporations receive all or part of their power supply from Carolina Power and Light Co. at wholesale rates. They are: Brunswick, Shallotte; Central, Sanford; French Broad, Marshall; Harker's Island, Harker's Island; Jones-Onslow, Jacksonville; Pee Dee, Wadesboro; Pitt & Greene, Farmville; South River, Dunn; Tri-County, Goldsboro; Carteret-Craven, Morehead City; Four County, Burgaw; Halifax, Enfield; Haywood, Waynesville; Lumbee River, Red Springs; Piedmont, Hillsborough; Randolph, Asheboro; Tideland, Pantego; Wake, Wake Forest.

The EMCs' higher power costs stem from a new wholesale rate schedule from CP&L, which went into effect August 18. It raised the cost of the co-op's electric energy supply by about 25 percent or $10.1 million annually.

The rates were allowed to go into effect by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, which sets wholesale rates for North Carolina's investor-owned power companies. Under the agency's procedures, rate hikes are put into effect pending a detailed review, with refunds to be made should FERC judges later determine that the new rates are too high.

The unexpectedly high fuel charges arose from the fact that CP&L operated through most of the summer without much of its nuclear generating facilities, which produce the least expensive energy available. As a result, the company had to depend more heavily on costly power from its own oil and gas generating facilities.

Compounding the problem was the extremely hot weather that pushed usuage across CP&L's service area to record or near-record levels for much of July and August. With the nuclear plants out of service, the company found itself buying power from utilities in neighboring states at premium prices to meet its peak-period demands.

Projected figures for fuel costs were part of a new CP&L wholesale

Co-ops Seek Relief for Painfully

Eighteen of North Carolina's Electric Membership Corporations began digging painfully deeper into their fiscal pockets August 18 to cover the cost of bulk power purchased from Carolina Power and Light Co., but there's hope for relieving that pain with two types of governmental medication.

One would take the form of a short-term cure, while the second could be described as a time-release capsule.

The former would be prescribed by a federal judge; the latter by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC),which establishes the rates that North Carolina electric cooperatives pay for wholesale power.

Both remedies are being sought by North Carolina Electric Membership Corporation, the power supply generation and transmission cooperative which represents 27 of the state's 28 EMCs.

Initially, N.C. EMC asked for both forms of relief in petitions to FERC after that agency received a request from CP&L for a hike in the wholesale rates charged to the EMCs.

FERC generally authorizes such rate increases to go into effect under bond, pending a detailed review — with refunds to be made retroactively should the rates later be declared too high.

In addition, the agency has the option of allowing the new rates to go into effect immediately or suspending them for a period of up to five months.

rate schedule, but they proved to be far too low once the nuclear-based generation dropped out of the picture.

It's the usual practice for projected figures to be used in this way, with adjustments to be made for the actual costs after a two-month lag. Thus, adjustments for July costs are automatically made in September.

Under the procedure, if the costs are higher than the projections, the extra charges are passed along. Should they be lower, a credit is applied to the co-ops' bills.

Both units of CP&L's Brunswick Nuclear Plant at Southport were shut down last spring for refueling and modifications required by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Meanwhile, the smaller H. B. Robinson Nuclear Plant at Hartsville, S.C., was operating at reduced capacity through July and August prior to a refueling-and-modification shutdown of its own.

CP&L officials said the original schedule called for completing the work at Brunswick and returning it to service before Robinson began reducing its output, but delays on the Brunswick modifications brought an unavoidable overlap in two plants' shutdowns.

Both units at Brunswick were scheduled to be back in service by early September—but the Robinson plant will be down for several more weeks.

As a result, the EMCs involved will be seeing unusually high fuel charges for October as well as September.

CP&L officials say the charges may begin dropping in November, but it could take even longer before the EMCs' consumer-members see their bills reduced significantly due to the timetable for the co-ops' billings.

"The EMCs' consumers can't escape these unexpectedly high fuel costs and the higher power costs," Hubbard said. "But, they should see their overall bills gradually decline as we move away from the high summertime usage levels and as CP&L brings more and more of its nuclear generation back into service."

CP&L's higher rates and high fuel costs also apply to 22 municipal electric systems which buy power from the company. As a result, consumers of those systems can also expect to see their bills go up dramatically for the next few months.

In addition, the extra fuel charges will eventually hit CP&L retail customers, too, but it may be December or even January before the higher costs show up on their bills because of procedures used in applying fuel costs to retail bills.

High CP&L Rates, Fuel Costs

N.C. EMC's petitions to FERC called for the full five-month suspension and argued that the new rates were, indeed, excessive.

FERC suspended the rates for only two months, but N.C. EMC has taken its case to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit. The suit asks that the rates be suspended for another three months.

The CP&L rate hike request calls for boosting the cost of the co-op's power by about 25 percent or $10.1 million annually.

As a result, an additional three-month suspension of the new rates would save all 18 EMCs affected about $3 million.

Whatever the outcome of that case, N.C. EMC will continue to argue its position on the merits of the rate increase through the usual FERC procedures, which call for staff review of the rates and hearings before administrative law judges.

"The FERC has been notoriously slow to act on rate cases like this in recent years, so there's no way of knowing when a final decision will be reached on these rates. It could take months or it could take years," said Jim Hubbard, executive vice president of N.C. EMC.

Meanwhile, the EMCs and their consumer-members will bear the full burden of the higher rates until a final ruling is issued, Hubbard said.

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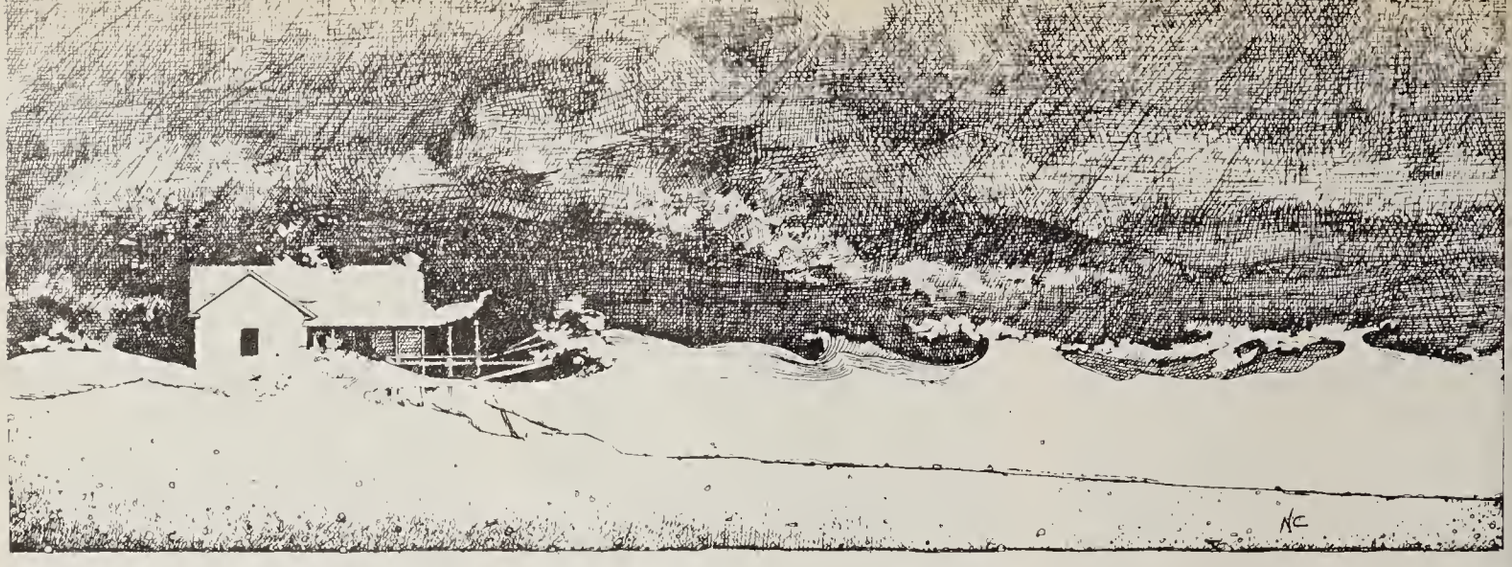

When Roofs Fly and Floors Float

If you are at the coast and a hurricane warning is issued, leave. Get far away to high ground. Sure, you'll wonder what it would be like to stick around, watch the fireworks. Don't do it!

The clay flower pot just left a dent grinning in the hood of your car. The garbage can looks like Mercury I lifting off and is just about to dive through the $200 plate glass window and splash down on the coffee table. . .

Okay, maybe you had the good sense to board up those windows. The house shudders from the impact of the missile but nothing cracks.

The wind reaches about 80 mph, too much for the average roof. You can't hear them for the din of the storm, but the shingles are peeling off and sailing like Frisbees. The wind shoves and lifts your roof, trying to make it into an airplane, a function for which it is fairly well designed. About now, were you in the attic, you might see the rafters rip loose from the wall, their little nails clutching air, so that the wind can really get a grip. . .

Maybe your house was built in the last couple of years. The revised building code declares that new houses on the coast must have enough metal straps and connectors to hold everything together, so long as the blow doesn't get stronger than about 110 mph. Assume the contractor didn't fudge. Assume this is an average hurricane, not a Camille, for example, which struck Mississippi in 1969 at about 172 mph. The roof won't take wings. You shake your fist at the Big Bad Wolf, who just failed to blow your house down. Save it. He's just getting started.

If you could see through the hurtling clouds of water that have replaced the air outside, you might notice the swollen belly of the storm surge crawling landward, sucked up into a mound about ten feet higher than the mean water level, with waves breaking on top like frosting on the cake. This is when you start thinking about what's under you.

It's plain that little sand dune in front of your house has about as much chance of stopping that wall of water as the Havelock High cheerleading squad has of stopping the front four of the Pittsburgh Steelers.

But as the waves chew it away, that dune is buying you time. Time to recall certain scriptures, not the least of which speaks to the practice of building one's house on sand.

What if your house is built low to the ground, on a solid masonry slab or foundation? You're sitting pretty, right? That's what the people at Holden's Beach thought in 1954, until Hurricane Hazel taught them differently. Down there, you're in the combat zone. And because buildings are bouyant, your house is about to become a boat.

Floating houses come to rest in interesting asymmetrical configurations, but on someone else's property. Even if the house has been bolted to the foundation and holds on, the surge will probably dismember it, beginning with the weakest section. Or, the water will scour soil from under the foundation, and whole sections will collapse, Or, floating battering rams—campers, picnic tables and trailers—will ram great holes in the walls. That's all the foothold the winds need to finish the job.

But let's assume, since you've been ahead of the game so far, that your house is built up on pilings, as *every beach house should be* and is above the storm surge. The surge passes on under the house, with nothing much down there to shove around. Don't relax yet!

If the floor frame of the house is just nailed to the pilings, those waves cresting against the floor may just lift the whole house free. If the floor frame is well made, and anchored to the piles with three-quarter-inch carriage bolts for each supporting pile, and the piles are notched only an inch or so, you may be safe.

Reprinted from Coastwatch, newsletter of the University of North Carolina Sea Grant Program. Text and art by Neil Caudle.

By now, the last of that little sand dune is washing across the street. If your pilings were sunk only about as deep as the dune, so that what used to be under ground isn't, your house is about to become a ship. Those piles will behave something like bowling pins when the next wave rolls through.

Okay, let's assume you're blessed with the perfect beach house: pilings sunk at least eight feet into the profile of the shoreline; metal bolts and fasteners holding everything together; well-fastened roofing and well-shuttered windows.

Odds are you'll make it unless this baby turns into one of those "200-year storms," so called because they're expected to hit a shoreline only about every couple of centuries.

Or, unless your neighbor's house is less perfect than yours. That is when you honestly, truly get that sinking feeling. When you see that three-bedroom house next door rock, slowly, to one side, snap its piles like pencils, belly-flop into the water, and glide straight for you. . .

Not a direct hit. Just a chunk is missing from one corner of your house, but suddenly, your house starts trembling, the water-fattened winds come blitzing through the hole. The rugs go squishy with water. The wallboard resembles something like painted oatmeal, and the siding is springing off one side of the house.

Let's say you're extremely lucky. Your well-constructed beach house is not a total loss. That is, if you can get it back together in time for the next storm. These big, bad wolves like to run in packs.

Remember August 30 and September 10, 1954 —that's when Carol and Edna came chasing through like pranksters. Then, on October 15, just when everybody was getting good and sick of cleaning up after hurricanes, Hazel came howling. She licked up miles of dunes, leveled hundreds of houses and killed 19 people.

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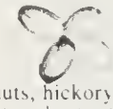

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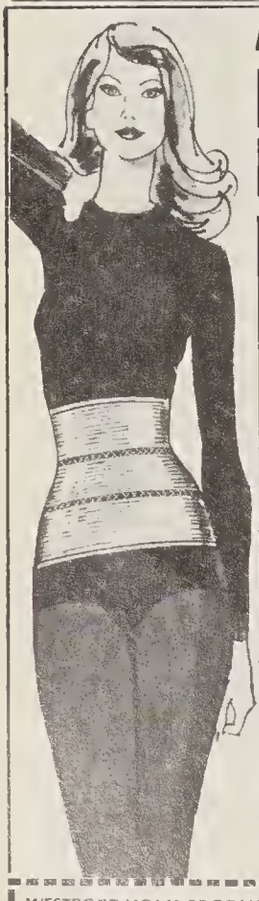

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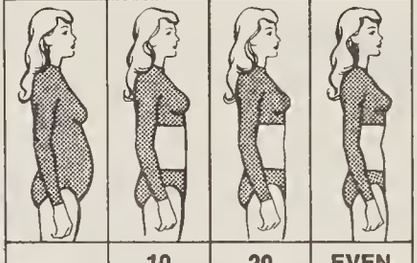

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EMCs Move To Develop Hydro Sites

North Carolina Electric Membership Corporation and the City of Jefferson are jointly seeking clearances from federal authorities to develop a number of hydroelectric projects across the state with a combined estimated capacity of 125 to 200 megawatts.

Meanwhile, the city and the EMC power supply generating and transmission cooperative are also seeking federal loans to finance feasibility studies of the sites under consideration.

Most of the projects could qualify for U.S. Department of Energy programs to encourage development of low-head hydro projects. Loans awarded under these programs are forgiven if the projects prove to be feasible.

Other projects in question would not qualify for such loans, but may qualify for low-interest loans from the Rural Electrification Administration.

"These hydro sites, some of which already have installed capacity, represent a significant untapped energy resource for the state," said Jim Stephenson, manager of N.C. EMC.

"We hope the federal agencies involved will see fit to authorize these studies. They're the first step toward developing this resource."

N.C. EMC, which represents 27 of the state's 28 rural electric cooperatives, and the City of Jefferson filed joint applications to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission for preliminary licenses to develop the sites.

Jefferson became involved in the applications because its municipal electric system draws its energy supply from Blue Ridge EMC, Lenoir, which is a member of N.C. EMC.

Stephenson pointed out that other license applications also have been submitted to FERC for the same sites.

Meanwhile, N.C. EMC has signed an option with John Currie of High Falls to purchase an existing dam on the Deep River at High Falls.

The dam has an installed capacity of 186 kilowatts, but the site has an estimated capacity of about 3,000 kilowatts.

Extension Wins Grant For Energy Education

The N.C. Agricultural Extension Service has received $88,000 as the first-year portion of a three-year program to conduct an educational program on energy conservation and alternative fuels in agriculture.

The grant is from the new Energy Extension Division of the N.C. Department of Commerce. The money came to the department through the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE).

"We'll use the money to demonstrate developed technology and encourage its implementation," said Dr. Frank Humenik, specialist-in-charge of extension biological and agricultural engineering. Efforts will center around crop drying and processing, and poultry and swine housing systems.

Among other things, the money will enable extension to conduct "energy audits" for farmers. Humenik said plans are to hire two technicians to aid specialists and agents in carrying out the work.

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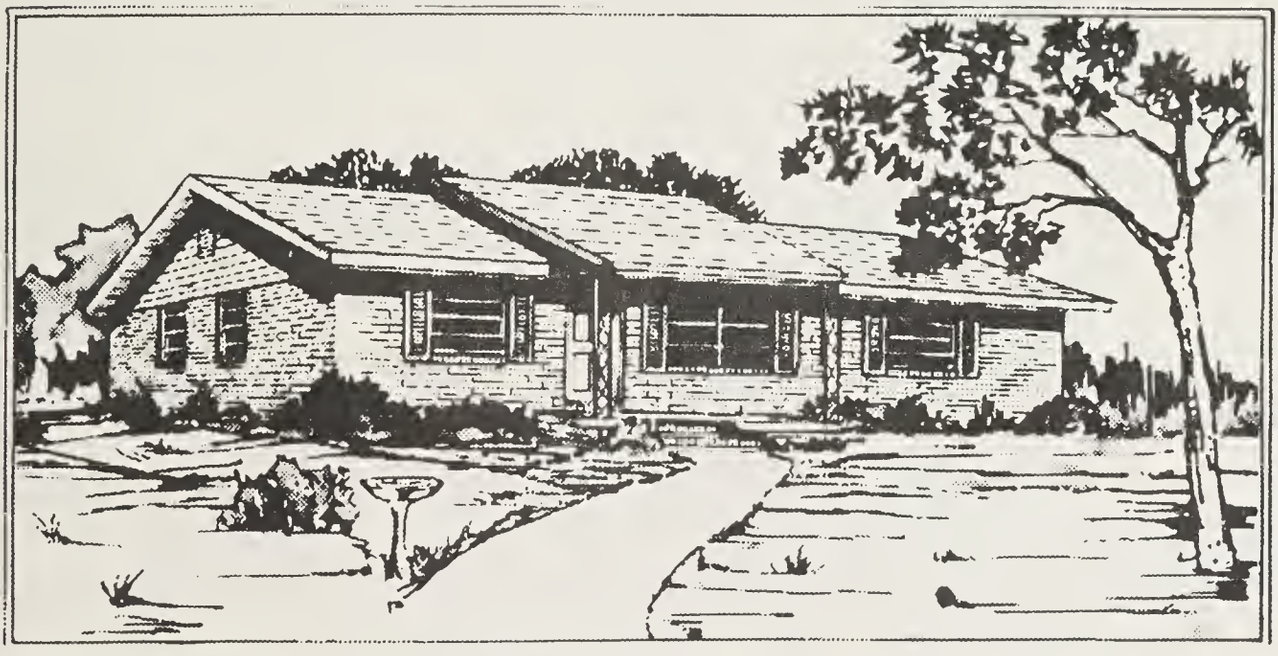

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Country Kitchen

SUNNY SEA SALAD

During one of the hottest summers on record, we thought you'd like to have another cool and refreshing congealed salad recipe. "It's even cool-looking," says Mrs. Murphy, "and it's perfect for a luncheon, or especially a brunch." It is also a tasty way to use shrimp, which are still available from our coast.

COUNTRY KITCHEN RECIPE

Submitted by Ceil Murphy of Lowell

SUNNY SEA SALAD

1 small pkg. lemon gelatin
1 C. hot water
¾ C. cold water
1 Tbl. vinegar
½ tsp. salt
1 to 2 Tbl. pimiento
1 Tbl. prepared horseradish
½ tsp. grated onion
1½ C. coarsely cut cooked shrimp
½ C. quartered and sliced cucumber

Dissolve gelatin in hot water. Add cold water, vinegar, and salt. Blend well and chill until slightly thickened. Fold in remaining ingredients and turn into one large or six individual molds. Refrigerate until set. Serve on lettuce with mayonaise.

If you would like to share a recipe with this column, send it to: COUNTRY KITCHEN, P.O. Box 27306, Raleigh, NC 27611. We pay $5. for published recipes.

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Ever try creating with soft and colorful fake fur? You can twist and shape the long fur pile to make flowers, animals, bottle novelties, and crazy characters. By spraying your project with some clear acrylic glaze, the object will hold its shape indefinitely. To begin your new hobby, all you need is a comb, a craft knife, white glue, clear acrylic spray, and fake fur.

The 23-page instruction booklet comes complete with step-by-step directions, photos, diagrams, full-size traceable patterns, and a materials list for each project. The penguin and bunny pictured here are made by covering small bottles and styrofoam balls. Plaques and greeting cards are fashioned by using scraps of felt, gingham, and burlap along with fake fur. Other items you can make are a cuddly Koala bear (12" tall), a Raggedy Ann-style doll plaque (15" x 30"), a holiday wreath and tree, plus more.

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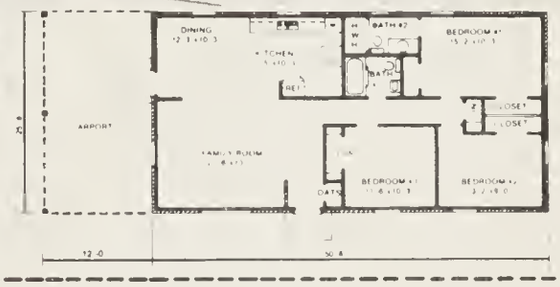

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Commentary

Energy: A Global Predicament

By James M. Hubbard
First of Two Parts

America enters the last fifth of the century in peril on two fronts:
1) On the international scene, the situation is more unstable and more dangerous than at any time I can remember since World War II. We have an enormous credibility problem around the world — a world that respects strength and not our long-time indecisiveness.
2) On the domestic scene, the White House and the Congress are made impotent by conflicting interests and "single issue" groups, pulling tragically apart on such vital issues as energy, the economy, inflation, defense and ecology.

U.S. Faces Critical Problems

We face social, political and economic problems of a magnitude seldom experienced by any society.

Look at what has happened in the past two years in just one area of the globe:

- The late Shah of Iran was overthrown, his pro-western army of 754,000 well-equipped men shattered without a fight, and they have been replaced by an Islamic and radical left coalition that is openly hostile to the United States. OPEC has raised oil prices with impunity and, with Iran joining the radical coalition of Libya, Iraq, and Algeria, further huge increases are coming.
- The neutralist government of Afghanistan was overthrown by a communist successor who himself was then deposed and executed in the Soviet invasion of last December. The Soviets have taken over the huge all-weather airport in Afghanistan, built by the United States, and Soviet bombers and fighters are only 450 miles from the jittery Saudi peninsula.
- Meanwhile, there were several assassinations of North Yemen leaders by agents from communist South Yemen, followed by an attempt at military invasion.
- You need not be reminded of the violation and capture of the U.S. Embassy in Iran by a group of Marxist terrorists operating under the ludicrous banner of "students".

Our national leadership is also concerned that Saudi Arabia, which is our major source of foreign oil, is vulnerable to similar disturbances.

Underlying and related to all of these uncertainties is energy. We are indeed living in an interdependent world.

An Energy Mess

How did we get into this energy mess, into a situation in which we are at the mercy of the oil exporting countries that are members of the OPEC cartel?

It began a half century ago. Oil was discovered by two Standard Oil geologists on Bahrain Island on the Persian gulf. A few years later, surveys indicated oil lay beneath the sands of Saudi Arabia. The oil company drilled six wells; six dry holes resulted. The outlook was not promising.

Standard Oil drilled a seventh well, and it came in at 7,000 barrels a day, which is big and that began the great success story of Saudi Arabia.

That country is today, after the USSR and the U.S., the world's largest oil producer, and it is our largest foreign supplier.

One could argue that abundant Middle East oil was the source of today's crisis. Oil in those vast Middle East pools was cheaper than water. It cost no more than *15 cents a barrel* to produce oil. The American, British and Dutch oil companies explored, financed, produced, shipped, refined and marketed the Middle East oil, sharing the profit of production with the countries from which the oil came. Under the management of the oil companies, the world price ranged between $1.30 and $2 per barrel.

James M. Hubbard, executive vice president of the North Carolina Association of Electric Cooperatives, has served for the past two years on a national Power Supply Study Committee which conducted an exhaustive study of the nation's energy situation and the outlook for future power supply.

The committee, composed of 17 rural electric leaders from across the country, was formed by the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association and the National Rural Utilities Finance Corporation. Its report and recommendations were issued earlier this year.

Count the Consequences

What have been the consequences of this cheap and abundant oil?
1. It encouraged a massive program of road building in this country, which in turn enabled people to live as far as they wished from where they worked. In most parts of the country people thought nothing of living 30-50 miles from where they worked.
2. Detroit was encouraged to build big cars, big gas guzzlers. When asked many years ago, why he didn't build a smaller car, Henry Ford replied, "Nobody wants a smaller car; if they did I would build it."
3. Cheap oil and gas forced coal out of the market, or at least reduced its market greatly.
4. Cheap oil diminished the interest or incentive for anyone to produce competitive fuels. Tinkerers, inventors and research-oriented companies had no incentives to exploit the energy field. That is why other forms of energy aren't available today.

The U.S. has been slow to wake up to the facts about energy. Neither the public nor Congress has been willing to acknowledge that a problem exists.

National Resolve Gathering

I have a feeling, however, that we as a nation may finally be gathering the political strength and resolve to alter the direction in which our nation has drifted for all of our lives.

Forecasters agree that as oil prices go up, the growth of U.S. energy consumption will slow down. But no studies claim that we'll be using less energy in ten years than we're using now. Even with the most stringent conservation, we'll need 30-50 percent more energy in 1990 (just ten short years) than we used in 1978.

If we hold oil imports down to 1977 levels, as the President has promised, where will this additional energy come from?

Can the U.S. get more energy in the foreseeable future than it's getting now from domestic oil? Probably not a good deal more. But with reasonable government policy, we are told that we can stop the decline in U.S. oil production that's been going on since 1970.

Gas Production Uncertain

Like oil production, natural gas production peaked in 1970. We've been producing less natural gas since then, although 1978's new natural gas law made more supplies available by shifting some gas from the Southwest to other states.

The impact of the Natural Gas Policy Act, a complicated semi-decontrol law, is still uncertain. So we may not have as much gas as will be needed in 1990.

In 1890, coal accounted for 96 percent of the world's energy. By 1970, that percentage had declined to about 30 percent. Coal could give us a lot more energy — and quickly.

Some of it could be burned right now — in industry and utility boilers that can use either coal or oil. But the Clean Air Act blocks the use of high-sulphur coal in many areas. And, 70 percent of all low-sulphur Western coal is locked up on public lands that can't be developed. Such substitution will be slow because of the limited number of boilers that can be directly converted to coal. Many will require outright replacement with new facilities, which will place even heavier capital burdens on already capital-burdened utilities.

U.S. mines are producing more than 750 million tons of coal a year. But, they could be bringing out 100 million tons more — if the coal could be used. We're going to need that coal within the next five years to reduce our dependence on oil imports. Energy experts predict that coal may increase by five percent a year, but that won't make up for all the missing oil that won't be produced or the missing gas that won't be produced.

If we have less oil in ten years —and, we have the same or little more natural gas . . . and, we have more coal, but not enough to cover all energy growth, what will make up the difference?

Nuclear Our Only Option

Our only other foreseeable option is nuclear power. The total installed capacity of all reactors operating at the beginning of last year could provide the equivalent of about 1.4 million barrels of oil a day. Completing all the plants under construction would bring that total to the equivalent of four million barrels of oil a day. And, building all the plants now in the planning stage would provide installed capacity equal to about five million barrels a day.

I sincerely believe that the political handling of nuclear energy policy in this nation during the last half of the 70's will be viewed by history as one of the great tragedies of this century. Safe operation of generating facilities, transportation and storage and reprocessing of this valuable energy resource can all be technically accomplished with adequate safety now.

National Will Lacking

All that is lacking is the national will and purpose.

Other countries, however, with little oil or coal resources are going ahead with comprehensive nuclear development programs. France expects to be generating one half of its electricity from nuclear sources by 1985. The United Kingdom is moving in the same direction. Russia and its eastern European allies are embarked upon a program to increase their nuclear power generating capacity tenfold by 1990.

Our own congressman from the 6th District, Steve Neal, recently recalled a statement by General Douglas MacArthur which seems applicable to our dilemma. He was, of course, speaking in another time on another subject: "The history of war can be summed up in two words: *Too late.* Too late in comprehending the deadly purpose of potential enemy; Too late in realizing the mortal danger; Too late in preparedness; Too late in uniting all possible forces for resistance; Too late in standing with one's friends."

Our whole industrial system is like a vehicle built to operate on $3 oil puffing along with an inefficient engine leaking vast amounts of energy. Each drop wasted drives higher the price of future oil purchases, which in turn makes it easier for OPEC to cut production and raise prices even more. Now that we have $30 oil, correcting this situation is the nation's first order of business.

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A Touch of Nostalgia Amid Asheboro's Concrete and Steel

A "slice of life" from turn-of-the-century Randolph County serves as an esthetic counterpoint to the sleek concrete and steel designs that line the streets of a busy Asheboro intersection.

It takes the form of a giant wall mural depicting a typical street scene of a bygone era, complete with plank road and bicycle-built-for-two.

The scene, which has brought a bright touch of nostalgia to the corner of Fayetteville Street and Sunset Avenue, was put there by three women artists in 1976-77 as part of the county's bicentennial celebration. It was a project of the Randolph Arts Guild.

Cynvia Arthur, a UNC-Chapel Hill fine arts graduate who was principal artist on the project, said she was looking for a challenge when she took on the assignment but she hadn't bargained for anything so spectacular.

"I was just awed. And I even had a momentary session of weeping one night before we began," she recalled.

She had come to Asheboro in October, 1975, as Randolph County's artist-in-residence under a statewide program sponsored by the North Carolina Arts Council. Her local sponsor was the Randolph Arts Guild.

She spent the first couple of months there doing demonstrations in the city and county schools while plans for the mural were evolving."

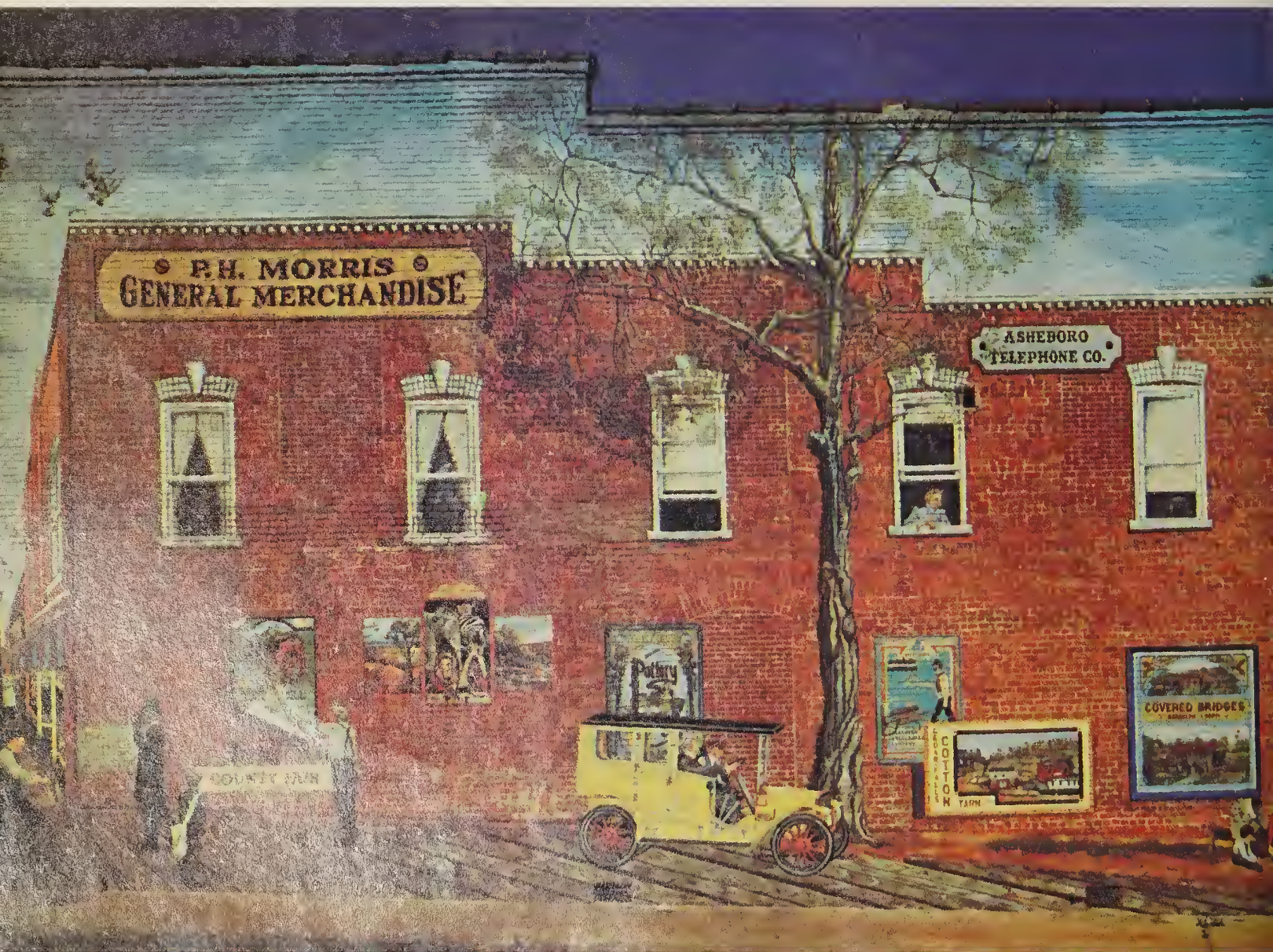
"Dwight Holland, who was president of the guild, had always thought it would be neat to have a mural on this particular building."

With the help of a special bicentennial grant, the Guild put Ms. Arthur to work full-time on the mural.

A final design for the mural was developed based on Holland's original concept — with an added element: real Randolph County people in period costume.

"It just seemed logical to include some people, so my models were many of the people who helped with the mural project in some way."

Ms. Arthur began painting in March, 1976, with the help of artists Louise Culler and Audrey Beck.



Ms. Culler worked on the project until fall, when she left Asheboro to pursue graduate studies in art.

"Louise continued to help whenever she was here, but Audrey was out there working from the beginning to the end."

Ms. Culler now teaches at Memphis Art Academy, while Ms. Beck is working on a master's in art at UNC-Greensboro.

Ms. Arthur, who was re-appointed artist-in-residence for a second year, said the mural took 18 months from design to completion. It was dedicated in August, 1977.

To recognize her efforts, Randolph citizens collected funds to cover her plane fare for a trip to Europe she'd been planning.

"That was the most thrilling moment of my entire life," she said. "I'd been saving some money because I felt it was time for me to see the museums of Europe, but I knew I wouldn't be able to go for very long."

The gift permitted her to make the trip a three-week visit.

When she returned, she signed on as artist-in-residence in her native Rowan County. Her assignment: another huge wall mural.

She's been working on that project ever since, although state and federal funds for the artist-in-residence program has been supplanted by local support through the Rowan Arts Guild.

This mural, now nearing completion on a wall on Salisbury's Fisher Street, has far more than a passing kinship with the Asheboro mural that inspired.

It, too, depicts a turn-of-the-century street scene, with lots of people who bear a remarkable resemblance to citizens of contemporary Rowan County.

This mural is somewhat larger than Ms. Arthur's first one. It measures 48.5 feet high at its highest point and 126 feet long. Asheboro's is 35 feet high and 105 feet long.

In fact, the Salisbury wall was so tall that special scaffolding had to be brought in for the artist to paint its highest point.

"We had to use a crane with an attached scaffolding. That's the kind where balance is so important — and every time you move, you have to warn your partner. That was a long day!"

Her partner inthat bit of daredevil artistry was Judy Banister, a potter who is also a Rowan artist-in-residence.

In addition, a number of other artists from the Art Guild have been involved in painting the mural from time to time, under Ms. Arthur's direction.

"This is the third summer on this project and we're almost finished. We expect to dedicate it in November."

—Owen Bishop

—Tom Easterling

—Wayne Hinshaw, Salisbury Post

LEFT—This nostalgic scene, which graces a wall on a busy downtown intersection in Asheboro, was painted in 1976-77 as part of Randolph County's bicentennial celebration. ABOVE—Cynvia Arthur, one of three artists who were involved in painting the Asheboro mural, is now nearing completion on a second such project in Salisbury.

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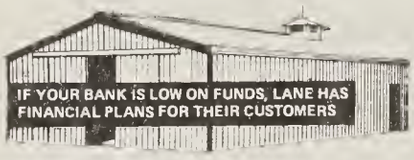

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Windmill Noise Cut By Reducing Speed of Blades

Reducing the speed of the blades on the Wind Turbine Generator at Boone has apparently helped to reduce the level of noise the machine produces, say National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) officials.

The machine, which was designed to operate at 35 revolutions per minute (r.p.m), was temporarily modified to operate at 23 r.p.m. Then sound tests were conducted by the Solar Energy Research Institute and the General Electric Company.

"I want to stress that the results are preliminary," says NASA project Manager John Collins. "It will be a couple of months before a complete analysis of the data will be finished. Right now, we don't know how much of a sound reduction we've gotten from reducing the rotor speed, but we feel fairly sure there's some improvement."

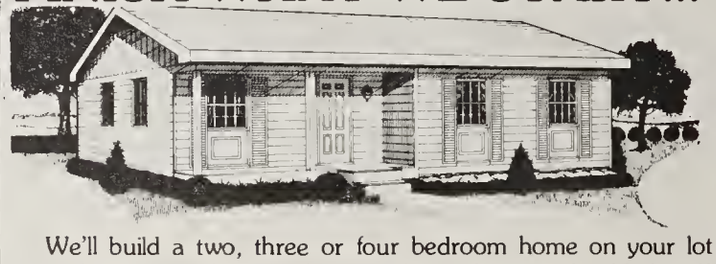
In the next few months, NASA plans to make a modification to permanently reduce the rotor speed to 23 r.p.m., Collins said.

The sound problem was discovered when 12 families who live near the machine in Watauga County complained. At times, noise occurs when the tips of the 100-foot long steel blades rotate past the tower at speeds of up to 250 miles per hour, Collins said.

Another problem caused by the wind machine, TV interference, is also undergoing study, Collins said. Some 19 families say the machine causes TV pictures to flicker as though an airplane were flying overhead.

Special high-directional TV antennas were installed at the homes of four families. The Solar Energy Research Institute and a research team from the University of Michigan measured TV signals coming from the special antennas and are studying the data collected, Collins said.

FINISH WHAT WE START...



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A tightwad went into a gift shop to find an inexpensive Christmas present for a friend, but he found everything very expensive until he spotted a vase that had broken. He purchased it for practically nothing and asked the store to send it. He wanted the friend to think it was broken in transit.

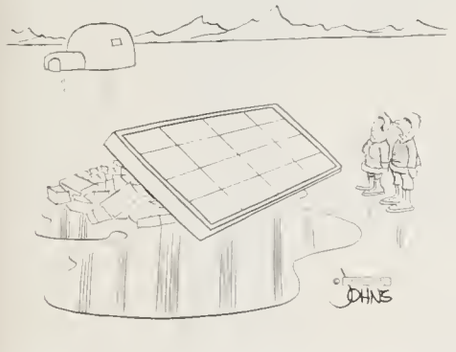
A week later he received a thank you note. It read, "Many thanks for the vase; it was nice of you to wrap each piece separately."

A little boy who wanted $100 very badly prayed and prayed for two weeks but nothing happened. Then he decided to write God a letter requesting the $100.

When the postal authorities received the letter to "God, USA," they decided to send it to President Carter. President Carter was so impressed, touched and amused that he instructed his secretary to send the little boy a $5 bill, thinking this would appear to be a lot of money to a little boy.

The little boy was delighted with the $5 and immediately sat down to write a thank you note to God, which read:

"Dear God: Thank you very much for sending me the money. However, I noticed that for some reason you had to send it through Washington and, as usual, those bureaucrats deducted $95."



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Try These Simple U-Build Projects For Dogs and Dolls

With an estimated 22 million dogs in the country, Americans are going *for* the dogs. And what better way to show your love for your own "man's best friend" than by building something for your pet. Even if you've never done woodworking before, it's a snap with these traceable, step-by-step patterns.

The slanted roof doghouse, shown with our collie friend, is built off the ground to avoid dampness, while a hinged door keeps out wind and cold. The roof is removable for cleaning. The Slanted Roof Doghouse (Pattern #299) is $2.50. Another shelter suitable for medium-size or large dogs is the Barn Doghouse (Pattern #448—$3.50).

How about a little help for our friends who like the freedom of going in and out when they want to? Pet Door (Pattern #540) is $2.50.

Mrs. Bassett and baby are getting ready to sack out in their own doggie bed. It's also ideal for catnaps by feline friends. Pet Bed (Pattern #170) is $2.00

Meanwhile, if you'd like to build something for the kids, why not turn back the clock to a more elegant era—when breath-taking corsets, stiff collars and tight shoes looked nice, even if they didn't feel too good.

The doors of our Victorian dollhouse swing open to reveal the charm of the late 19th century. Built principally of ¼" plywood, the house is a scale version (1" to 1 ft.) that almost any do-it-yourselfer can tackle.

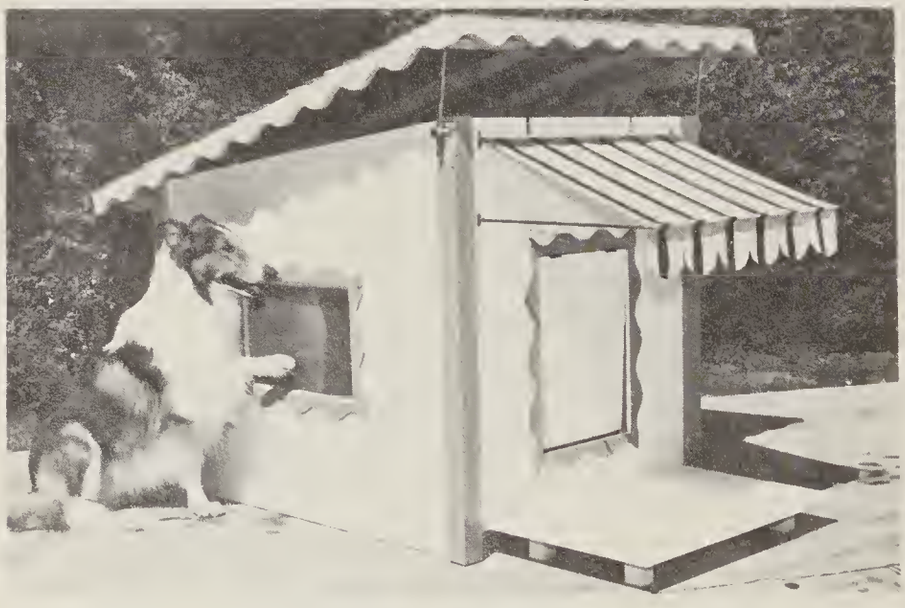
The plan is broken into easy-to-follow sections, each with its own materials list and drawings. The windows, window seat, walls and sides, fireplace, floors and ceiling, stairs, porch and front door, bay roof and bay are all treated separately. Most hobby shops or miniature shops carry furniture, and shingles to fit Victorian dollhouses.

To save money, we made our shingles from tongue depressors which can be purchased from a pharmacy, then cut to shingle length. For wallpaper, our designer used wrapping paper with a small print design.

The Victorian Dollhouse Plan #671 is $3.50.

All prices include 1st class postage and handling. Send check or money order to **Steve Ellingson, Carolina Country Pattern Dept., P.O. Box 2383, Van Nuys, California 91409.**

GOOD IDEAS! 112-page **Patterns For Better Living** pictures 600 woodworking and handicraft projects, $1.75 (includes postage).



Books

By Frank Jeter Jr.

North Carolina Lighthouses by David Stick. Division of Archives & History, North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources. 85 pages. Hard cover $6, softback $2.50.

David Stick has shown his affection for North Carolina's Outer Banks for years, writing books and many magazine pieces on this unique section. Now he has turned to something almost everybody has seen, the lighthouses that dot the Tar Heel shoreline.

This book has an ample text but is abundantly illustrated with photographs that show lighthouses—past and present. Going way back, we even have an 18th century artist's conception of the famed Pharos of Alexandria (Egypt), which survived 15 centuries before an earthquake around 1200.

To compensate for this, we have a modern photograhy of the "Texas tower" type of light, standing in the ocean, which replaced the famed lightships that flashed their warnings a few years back.

But the "stars" of this book are the famous Cape Hatteras light, with its barber-pole stripes; Cape Lookout, with its "checkers" and the Bodie Island light, with its broad circling bands. There is also the Currituck Beach lighthouse which kept its natural brick color.

In covering the history of North Carolina's lights, David Stick does his usual competent job of explaining why our low-lying coastline needs such lights to keep the sea-going vessels off the reefs. He also recalls such historic lights (no longer around) as the Baldhead Island installation and the Shell Island lighthouse, first used around 1800, that looked as though it stood in water—but was actually on a tiny spot of sand between Ocracoke Inlet and Pamlico Sound.

One fact stands out: We have had a lot more lighthouses than we now have. This is a comment on the changing face of the coastline. And, one fact does not change: David Stick writes an interesting book.

Cape Hatteras Lighthouse

Wildflowers of the Outer Banks by The Dunes of Dare Garden Club. University of North Carolina Press. 165 pages. $6.95 softback.

The Dunes of Dare Garden Club is an active group, which promotes environmental quality and carries on a program that includes North Carolina's unique "beach clinics" in cooperation with the Soil Conservation Service.

This new book was prepared to tell people about the varied flowers and other plants found on the Outer Banks, and was begun only after a group of amateur botanists conducted a number of field trips in the area during the growing season. This group became the Wildflower Identification Committee of the club, and so we can list its members—Sarah T. Barber, Margaret M. Held, Ina B. Kuralt, Helen Hill Miller, Bernice Mulford, Marie-Louise Peterson, Gertrude Rogallo, Virginia F. Ross, Mary N. Torrey and Bertha M. Willett—as the actual authors of this attractive and informative book.

Jane Sutton deserves special mention for the black-and-white sketches that illustrate the book.

Subtitle of the book is "Kitty Hawk to Hatteras" and a map shows that this is the very area covered. The plants include dozens of wildflowers and some additional vegetation as well. We have sketches of such familiar items as

Milkweed

Spanish Moss, maypops, prickly pear cactus, the cat-tail, the ubiquitous sea oat, and such introduced varieties as the widely-used American beach grass.

But we also learn about the six-foot-tall rattle box, partridge pea, lance-leaved coreopsis, elderberry-the poisonous plant with the berries used for wine and jelly; the aquatic duck potato that Indians ate, and several kinds of ferns: bracken fern, royal fern, Virginia chain fern, and the ebony spleenwort.

This wildflower book includes trees. Live oak, sweet gum, persimmon, witch hazel, red cedar and even the old reliable loblolly pine are all here. The book uses black and white drawings; the only color photographs are on the cover.

The plants are grouped in handy compartments, with such headings as white flowers, yellow flowers, orange or maroon flowers, pink or red flowers, and blue or purple flowers. There is even one heading: "Green inconspicuous or without" flowers.

The scholarly authors have included a glossary, a section on endangered species and an index. This could be quite useful to people who own property along the Outer Banks and perhaps any North Carolina seashore.

I liked the book. The club and its committee are to be applauded for their interest in beautification and conservation.

Frank Jeter is public information officer for USDA—Soil Conservation Service in North Carolina.

Hours After Training

Two Pass Ultimate Test Of Rescue Procedures

Only a few hours after watching a recent demonstration of mouth-to-mouth resuscitation and heart massage, two Tar Heel electric cooperative employees were put to the ultimate test of what they'd learned in the session: They had to use the techniques to save an injured man's life.

The men involved were right-of-way workmen Donald Branch and Charles Jacobs of Lumbee River Electric Membership Corporation, Red Springs.

After the rescue procedures were demonstrated at a regular EMC safety meeting, the two men left to take a piece of the co-op's right-of-way clearing equipment to Currie Chain Saw in Lumberton for repairs.

When they pulled into the parking lot, a man ran up to them and asked for help. They didn't understand exactly what was going on, but followed him to a warehouse behind the main building.

"When we got there," Branch said, "a whole bunch of people were standing around. This guy was lying on the floor between a forklift and a large, wooden crate that had two big motorcycles in it.

"He wasn't moving, he was hurt bad and nobody was doing anything about it."

Branch and Jacobs noticed a slight arm motion and immediately went to work to revive him.

"We worked on him for about four or five minutes," Jacobs said. "We took turns giving him mouth-to-mouth resuscitation and heart massage. For a while nothing happened, but then we got a good pulse rate and his color started coming back."

The victim was Jack Davis, an employee of Currie Chain Saw. While operating a forklift, he had backed his vehicle into a stack of motorcycle crates. The impact had fractured his neck.

Branch had never been instructed in life-saving techniques before the safety meeting that day. Jacobs, who has been with the co-op for the past seven years, said he'd attended several such sessions.

"I'm sorry we had to find out the techniques work the way we did, but I'm sure glad they do work," he added.

The victim was taken to Cape Fear Valley Hospital by the Lumberton Rescue Squad and was doing well at last report.

EMC Offers Cash For Shifting To Pasture, Crops Under Lines

Consumer-members at Blue Ridge Electric Membership Corporation, Lenoir, can convert some of their timber land to pasture or crops with financial help from the co-op — as long as the land in question is under EMC power lines.

The co-op will pay half the cost of such conversions, up to $150 an acre, under a program designed to help reduce the EMC's costs for clearing such land.

The program, called the Right-of-Way improvement Incentive, has been in effect since 1957, according to Blue Ridge Operations Director Bob Moretz.

"When the Board of Directors put the program into effect, the offer was $50 per acre and has increased gradually since," said Moretz.

The EMC has had a good response to the program all along, but never a large volume of requests, he said.

"It's a good deal for the member and for Blue Ridge," he continued. "It's an obvious savings for us because if the member maintains the right-of-way after conversion, we never have to go in and cut the area back, and it can be good for the member if he wants to convert some timber land to pasture land."

Moretz explained that the offer includes rights'-of-way from 30-feet to 250-feet wide, according to the type of line. The co-op inspects the area to be converted both before and after the work is done.

"What we're looking for is conversion to pasture land or shrubbery not over eight feet high," he added.

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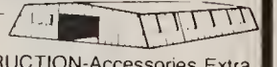

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Celebrating the State's Indian Heritage

Indians were the original Tar Heels, for their roots in North Carolina soil go back hundreds of years before the territory was claimed by settlers from Europe.

In recognition of that history, Gov. James B. Hunt Jr. has proclaimed Sept. 20-26 as Indian Heritage Week in North Carolina.

From the Cherokee Reservation in the west to the Waccamaw-Siouan tribal area in the southeast section of the state, community and statewide observances will call attention to the history and contributions of North Carolina Indians.

The week's activities are being coordinated by the N.C. Commission of Indian Affairs in the N.C. Department of Administration.

In Raleigh, Indians will perform on the Capitol grounds at midday each day during the week. Scheduled to appear are the Lumbee, Sept. 22; Coharie, Sept. 23; Haliwa-Saponi, Sept. 24; Waccamaw-Siouan, Sept. 25, and Cherokee, Sept. 26.

INDIAN HERITAGE WEEK IN NORTH CAROLINA SEPT. 20~26

Also at the Capitol, a display tracing the history of North Carolina Indians will be exhibited during September, and a slide show will be presented daily Sept. 22-26 in the Old House Chambers.

In addition, an Indian art exhibit will open at the N.C. Museum of Art on Sept. 21.

Other scheduled events include:

- Annual Association Powwow of Guilford Native American Association at the YMCA Retreat Center, Greensboro, Sept. 19-20.
- Gospel Sing/Prayer Breakfast of the Lumbee Regional Development Association at the association center, Pembroke, Sept. 21.
- Art and craft display at the Haliwa-Saponi Indian Tribe Tribal Center, Hollister.
- Indian History-Culture Classes at the Charloee Nature Museum.
- A series of addresses, workshops and panel discussions on Indian affairs issues at Duke University.
- Open houses at various tribal organization headquarters.
- Unveiling of a Jim Chavis Historical Marker at Pembroke, Sept. 26.
- An International Festival in cooperation with the Metrolina Native American Association at UNC-Charlotte's Cone Center, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Sept. 27.

For more information on Indian Heritage Week activities, contact the N.C. Commission of Indian Affairs, P.O. Box 27228, Raleigh, N.C. 27611, or telephone 733-5998.

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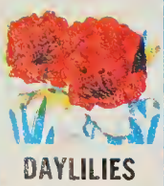

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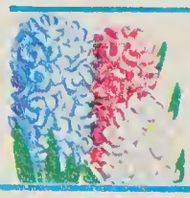

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